## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~purification~~ process ~~of~~ for purifying an amide compound, comprising

contacting an amide compound-containing solution ~~in contact~~ with activated carbon under acidic conditions of from pH of 3.5 to 6.5, and

~~for removing a protein and~~ separating the activated carbon from the amide compound-containing solution, thereby removing proteins from the amide compound-containing solution, wherein;

the amide compound has an unsaturated bond and is produced by contacting a nitrile compound with a nitrile hydratase, ~~a microorganism fungus body containing nitrile hydratase or a processed product of the microorganism fungus body~~ a microorganism comprising a nitrile hydratase, or a processed product of the microorganism, wherein the processed product comprises nitrile hydratase.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) A purification process according to claim 1, wherein the amide compound has from 2 to 20 carbon atoms.

4-8. (Canceled).

9. (Previously Presented) A purification process according to claim 3, wherein the amide compound is acrylamide or methacrylamide.

10-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A purification process according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the amide compound-containing solution is prepared to be acidic by using an organic acid having an acid dissociation exponent of from 3.5 to 5.5 or by using said organic acid and a base.

13. (Original) A purification process according to claim 12, wherein the organic acid is acrylic acid or methacrylic acid.

14. (Original) A purification process according to claim 13, wherein the activated carbon is activated carbon made from wood or palm shell as a raw material.

15. (Original) A purification process according to claim 14, wherein a temperature upon contact with said activated carbon is from 10 to 50°C.

16. (Currently Amended) A purification process according to claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein after ~~making said amide compound-containing solution in contact with said activated carbon, a liquid obtained by~~ separating said activated carbon from said amide-containing solution, said amide-containing solution is set at a saturation temperature or lower to deposit crystals.

17-24. (Canceled).

25. (Previously Presented) The purification process according to claim 1, wherein the amide compound has from 2 to 20 carbon atoms.

26. (Previously Presented) A purification process according to claim 10, wherein the amide compound-containing solution has pH of from 3.5 to 6.5 upon contacting with the activated carbon.

27. (Currently Amended) A purification process according to claim 26, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the amide compound-containing solution is prepared to be

acidic by using an organic acid having an acid dissociation exponent of from 3.5 to 5.5 or by using said organic acid and a base.

28. (Previously Presented) A purification process according to claim 27, wherein the organic acid is acrylic acid or methacrylic acid.

29. (Previously Presented) A purification process according to claim 28, wherein the activated carbon is activated carbon made from wood or palm shell as a raw material.

30. (Previously Presented) A purification process according to claim 29, wherein a temperature upon contact with said activated carbon is from 10 to 50°C.

31. (Currently Amended) A purification process according to claim 30, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein after ~~making said amide compound-containing solution in contact with said activated carbon, a liquid obtained by~~ separating said activated carbon from said amide-containing solution, the amide compound-containing solution is set at a saturation temperature or lower to deposit crystals.